

### Reviewer Claims 'Family Night' Concert Whets Musical Appetite

Last Thursday evening, at Redondo High School Auditorium the art of music received an impetus which can not fail to increase the interest in fine music for many years to come.

It was the Christmas "Family Night" Concert of the Civic Symphony directed and planned by the talented Maestro Elyse Aehle who has produced so many artistic programs for this community. For this concert she chose the shorter works of the great masters. It was played by an orchestra perfectly capable of

fulfilling every demand she made upon it with luxuriant tone, mighty power, and exciting speed.

THE STRING sections of this orchestra are particularly fine. In the "Hansel and Gretel" and the Wagner they were excellent. The horns, too, played the "Children's Prayer" with dulcet tenderness.

However the oboe did not follow the director and at times lagged behind the beat. The brasses, cello, and percussion were impressive in Wagner, Grieg, and Borodin but the tympani were a little uncertain, in some of the numbers. The cymbal player handled the high cymbals well and so energetically that she seemed to be in danger of being blown away by them.

IN THE Saint Saens' Carnival of Animals" the two pianists, Eileen Romm and David Pinto, gave a brilliant reading of the solo parts of which was played by the composer himself at the premier 74 years ago.

Louise DiTullio's clear tone and finished technique were evident in the bird solo, and Bernard Blau gave a good interpretation of the famous "Swan" solo, although his tone was slightly inadequate even though he was using a real Guarnier cello, one of four in existence.

Real tone development means more practice than most modern teenagers are willing to give.

THE MOST impressive sight, however, followed the close of the program when hundreds of the adults and children, who had filled the auditorium, pushed their way into the large rehearsal hall across from the stage and crowded around the musicians who had hurried there from the stage to receive them and talk with them.

It made an exciting scene. In one corner a French Horn player played bits from his part, next a flutist allowing the children to "Try out" her flute, the harp, the violinists the big bass players, all the musicians were happily telling about their instruments and encouraging the children.

EACH WAS surrounded by a crowd so dense that the musician was completely hidden. As one parent remarked: "these kids are all going to be nagging their dads to buy them a piccolo or a horn or something to play on."

For nearly an hour the young people and parents went from player to player. This was

THE AUDIENCE adored the string - bass solo by Russel Black, particularly so because it is so seldom that a solo on this "Big Fiddle" is heard. Violinist Charles Zila displayed, even in so short a part that he has a vibrant tone and nimble fingers. Ronald Romm showed fluent ability and easy control of the difficulties which abound in Mendez' "La Virgen de la Macarena."

Superior Judge John A. Shidler won the audience completely with his clear reading and clever remarks. He does this kind of thing extremely well.

THE BEST soloists were the last. The program stated "O Come All Ye Faithful"—Soloists Everyone in the audience." This must have taken seriously for everyone did sing heartily and skillfully followed the conductor who turned and

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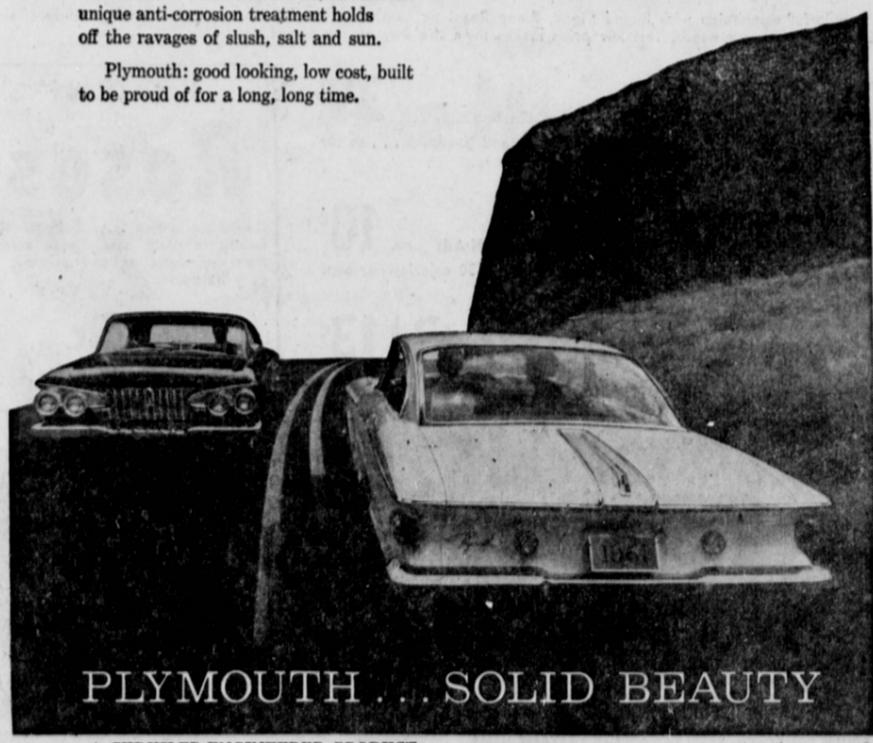
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